

# Missouri Valley Conference Facts & Services

## Missouri Valley Conference Services

For additional assistance, please contact Associate Commissioner Mike Kern, Assistant Commissioner Ryan Davis, Assistant Commissioner Katie Mucci, or Asst. Director for Communications & Digital Strategy Nathaniel Gale:



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The Missouri Valley Conference offers a wide array of media services, including Zoom coaches briefings in basketball, as well as weekly releases and preseason publications for each of the league's 17 sports programs. During the season, a panel will select a Player of the Week and a Newcomer of the Week.



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## KTRS/MVC Partner in St. Louis

Missouri Valley Conference Sports Properties – a division of Learfield Sports – and St. Louis-based radio station KTRS (550 AM) are in the second year of a multi-year agreement, providing KTRS exclusive rights to broadcast the games from the State Farm MVC Men's Basketball Tournament in St. Louis through the 2025 event.

In addition to airing the MVC Tournament, KTRS provides season-long coverage and weekly programming – The Valley on the Big 550 – during the Conference schedule in men's basketball. The 2021-22 season culminates with the tournament – affectionately named Arch Madness – March 3-6 at Enterprise Center.

KTRS, which holds Missouri's largest daytime signal, provides St. Louis and surrounding areas with 5,000 watts day and night, supplying listeners with news, talk, sports and entertainment. In addition to the State Farm MVC Tournament, KTRS is the home of Missouri Tigers' football and basketball and the Memphis Redbirds.



## MVC on the Web



Information on the Missouri Valley Conference has been available on the web since 1995, and the league's official web site – mvc-sports.com – continues to stand out as one of the nation's top collegiate athletic sites. The league began a partnership with SIDEARM Sports on July 1, 2017. Archmadness.com is tournament-specific site, which debuted in 2003.

Current news and information about MVC athletics teams, live statistics, official team merchandise, live events, highlights, press conferences and other exclusive features are available on the league's web site.

## MVC Sports Properties



The Valley is in the midst of a multi-year, exclusive relationship with collegiate sports marketer Learfield.

Beginning in July of 2010, Missouri Valley Conference Sports Properties – a property of Learfield – began connecting businesses and brands to Valley alumni and fans via corporate sponsorship. MVCSP leverages platforms such as, in-venue engagement and branding, television & radio, digital and social media, and corporate hospitality in order to build integrated marketing programs for league partners. The group holds the league's media and marketing rights through the 2023-2024 academic year.

## MVC on the Web – Social Media

The league began an aggressive approach in its social media presence in 2009, with goals to expand its social media initiative in order to reach the most fans possible.

Fans can find The Valley on Twitter and Instagram at @MVCsports and on Facebook by searching "Missouri Valley Conference". For direct links to the league's social media accounts, visit mvc-sports.com and click the Multimedia tab.

In August 2020, the league launched a social justice/racial equality initiative titled "Mobilizing Voices for Change" and promotes it using the hashtag #OneValley. In addition, The Missouri Valley Conference has another hashtag initiative – #TheValleyRunsDeep – which speaks to the league's deep history and to success stories that continue today.

## Coaches Weekly Zoom Teleconferences

Zoom calls with The Valley men's basketball head coaches will be conducted on Monday morning each week throughout the conference season.

Weekly calls are scheduled to begin the week of January 3, and they will continue through Monday, Feb. 28. Audio replays will be available for playback on the conference's web site.

Please contact The Valley to arrange participation in the weekly sessions – login credentials will be required. Media will be allowed to ask questions directly of the coaches. The schedule is subject to change, and the order of coach appearance will be determined.

Women's basketball head coaches will also be featured on weekly Zoom calls. All 10 coaches will be available on two calls – Tuesday, Jan. 4 and Tuesday, March 8 (prior to Hoops in the Heartland). Each call will start at 11:45 a.m. (Central). In other weeks, the Conference will feature head coaches from team's participating in the league's "Valley on ESPN Game of the Week." Please contact Ryan Davis (davis@mvc.org) for additional information. The schedule is subject to change, and the order of coach appearance will be determined.

# Missouri Valley Conference Television Talent



## **Tom Ackerman** **Play-by-Play/Sideline Reporter**

Tom Ackerman is in his 19th season as a member of The Valley's telecast team.

Ackerman will handle play-by-play duties on the MVC TV Network and The Valley on ESPN plus serve as the sideline reporter for the 2022 State Farm MVC Men's Basketball Championship at Enterprise Center in St. Louis.

A 1997 graduate of Indiana University, he is in his 25th year at KMOX Radio (AM 1120) in St. Louis, where he is sports director and morning anchor on "Total Information A.M." The host of programs like "Sports Open Line" and "Sports on a Sunday Morning," Ackerman has also handled play-by-play duties for University of Missouri men's basketball and served as a sideline reporter on Mizzou football broadcasts for KMOX Radio.

In addition to his radio responsibilities, Ackerman has also served as a host for St. Louis Cardinals post-game shows on Fox Sports Midwest.

A native of St. Louis, Mo., Ackerman and his wife, Angie, live in St. Louis, and have two daughters Erika (15) and Audrey (11).



## **JORDAN BERNFIELD** **Play-by-Play**

Jordan Bernfield is in his fourth year as part of The Valley's on-air talent team.

A play-by-play broadcaster for ESPN, Bernfield is also seen on the Big Ten Network calling men's and women's basketball and softball games, and on NBC Sports Chicago handling local broadcasts for both Loyola University Chicago and the University of Illinois at Chicago (UIC).

Additionally, he anchors and reports in the news and sports departments at WGN-AM (Radio 720) in Chicago.

Bernfield spent eight years as a radio sportscaster in the Windy City. Before returning to WGN Radio in the fall of 2019, his most recent stop was at WSCR-AM (670 The Score), where he spent two years as a host and update anchor. Prior to The Score, Bernfield spent six years at WGN Radio, where he worked as the station's lead afternoon sports anchor, sports reporter and host.

He has hosted broadcasts for the Chicago Cubs, White Sox, Blackhawks and Northwestern, while also serving as a fill-in play-by-play voice and sideline reporter for the Wildcats.

A graduate of Syracuse University's SI Newhouse School of Public Communications, Bernfield was honored with RAIN Audio/Edison Media Research's "30 under 30" award, given to top talent in radio and audio in 2014. He was also an honorable mention selection by Sportscaster's Talent Agency of America to their "30 under 30" list.



## **KELLY BURKE** **Analyst**

Kelly Burke is in her sixth year as a member of The Valley's on-air talent team.

She serves as an analyst for women's volleyball, women's basketball and indoor and outdoor track and field championship coverage on The Valley on ESPN.

A veteran sportscaster, she hosts and produces weekly segments for the Missouri Valley Football Conference and sideline reports for the MVFC Game of the Week. Her versatility includes play-by-play and analysis work for The Valley on ESPN productions of volleyball, basketball and softball at Southern Illinois University and Illinois State University.

Burke previously spent ten years in local TV as the weekend sports anchor/reporter for WSIL-TV (ABC) in Carbondale, Illinois, and KDRV-TV (ABC) in Medford, Oregon.

A track and cross country student-athlete at Arizona State University, she graduated from the ASU Walter Cronkite School of Journalism. Burke and her husband reside in southwest Florida.



## **ADAM EMMENECKER** **Analyst**

Adam Emmenecker is in his ninth season as a member of the league's telecast team, serving as an analyst for regular-season men's basketball coverage on the MVC TV Network and The Valley on ESPN.

Since the 2013-14 season, he has been a co-host of The Valley Shootaround – a men's basketball segment that airs every other week on the league's website during Conference play.

During the 2007-08 basketball season, Emmenecker, who had been a walk-on for his first three years at Drake University, emerged from obscurity to lead the Bulldogs to a sweep of the regular-season and tournament titles in the Missouri Valley Conference.

He received numerous honors, including the 2008 Larry Bird Trophy – given to the league's top player. He also received first-team all-conference laurels and earned MVP recognition for the 2008 MVC Tournament.

His accomplishments on the court in 2007-08 were arguably eclipsed by his academic record. He graduated from Drake with a 3.98 grade point average in four majors — management, finance, general business and entrepreneurial management. He also earned a minor in economics and a concentration in insurance.

He was chosen as the 2008 Academic All-American of the Year in men's Division I basketball by the College Sports Information Directors of America, and was also named the MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Year in men's basketball.

Emmenecker completed his career after playing for the Deutsche Bank Skyliners in Frankfurt, Germany, in 2008-09 and the Iowa Energy of the NBA's Development League in 2009.

A native of Saginaw, Michigan, Emmenecker currently serves as Director Market Strategy and Intelligence Retirement for Wellmark Blue Cross Blue Shield in Des Moines, Iowa.

# Missouri Valley Conference Television Talent



## MITCH HOLTHUS

### Play-by-Play

Entering his 27th season as one of the league's play-by-play voices is Mitch Holthus. The 2021-22 season will mark his 42nd year of covering collegiate basketball.

In 2007, Holthus was named the third recipient of the league's John Sanders Spirit of the Valley Award – given to an

individual who exemplifies the spirit of the late MVC staffer and demonstrates passion for the Conference, strong work ethic and sense of humor.

A native of Smith Center, Kansas, Holthus is in his 28th season as the radio play-by-play voice of the Kansas City Chiefs – the longest tenured play-by-play announcer in KC history – on their 80-station network.

Holthus was on the call of Super Bowl 54 when the Chiefs defeated the San Francisco 49ers for their second Super Bowl title in franchise history.

In 2018, Holthus along with Kansas City Royals voice Denny Matthews were listed as one of the Top 13 “Most Cherished One-Two Play-by-Play Pairs across American Markets,” according to the Sports Broadcast Journal.

A 42-year broadcast veteran, he was the play-by-play voice of the Kansas State Wildcats for 12 seasons. He served as television host of the Kansas State football and basketball coaches shows from 1985 to 1996. He also toiled as play-by-play announcer at WIBW Radio, flagship station of the Kansas City Royals, from 1983 to 1996.

He has earned the distinction of being the Kansas Sportscaster of the Year eight times – 1987, 1989, 1991, 1992, 1993, 1994, 1998 and 2001 – and the Missouri Sportscaster of the Year once (2020) from the National Association of Sportscasters and Sports-writers, and has been voted the Metro Sportscaster of the Year by the Kansas Association of Broadcasters nine times.

Holthus was inducted into the Kansas Association of Broadcasters Hall of Fame in October 2008 and was tabbed the Kansas City Sports Journalist of the Year in 2010.

In September of 2012 and October 2019, Holthus was awarded an Emmy for his video and on-line work by the Academy of Television Arts and Sciences.

In 2016, Holthus was inducted into the Kansas State University Athletics Hall of Fame.

A 1979 Kansas State grad, he and his wife, Tami, a former college basketball player at KSU, have a son Brian (39) and a daughter Hayley (36), who both played basketball and graduated from Southwestern College in Winfield, Kansas.



## TELLY HUGHES

### Play-by-Play

Telly Hughes is in his first season as a member of the league's on-air team as a men's basketball play-by-play announcer.

A two-time Emmy award-winning sports announcer with two decades of experience covering sports, he is currently a play-by-play announcer and sideline reporter for The Big Ten Network.

A 1999 graduate from Illinois State University with a bachelor's degree in broadcast journalism, Hughes had local television stints – Macon, Georgia; Des Moines, Iowa; and St. Louis, Missouri –

before serving six seasons as sideline reporter for the Milwaukee Brewers and eight seasons as the pre-/post-game show host/sideline reporter for the Milwaukee Bucks.

He has also worked for FS1, Fox Sports Radio in Los Angeles and ESPN Milwaukee radio and created his own YouTube series called “Untold Truths with Telly” to name a few of his endeavors.

Hughes is married to fellow ISU graduate Toya, and they have daughters, Tannar and Tahlia.



## JACQUI KALIN

### Analyst

Jacqui Kalin is in her second season as a member of the league's on-air team as a women's basketball analyst.

A former MVC women's basketball student-athlete at Northern Iowa and professional player, she ended her career at UNI as the holder of eight school records, including scoring, assists and minutes

played. Her season (95.5) and career (92.0) free throw percentage rank among the top in NCAA Division I history.

A two-time Jackie Stiles Trophy recipient (MVC Player of the Year) in 2011 and 2013, she was selected MVC Scholar-Athlete of the Year twice and became the first UNI women's basketball player to earn CoSIDA (College Sports Information Directors of America) first-team Academic All-America honors.

Kalin was inducted into the National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame (2013), the Iowa Girls High School Athletic Union Hall of Fame (2014) and the UNI Athletics Hall of Fame (2017). She was also named to the MVC Women's Basketball 25-Year Team.

While at UNI, she earned her bachelor's degree in exercise science: sport psychology and master's degree in kinesiology with an emphasis in sport psychology.

A native of Sioux City, Iowa, Kalin and her wife Sarah live in Webster, Wisconsin, where she works for Herzl Camp as its programmatic operations manager. She also co-owns a small business (coffee and handmade goods) in Siren, Wisconsin.



## DAVID KAPLAN

### Analyst

David Kaplan is in his second tour with The Valley's telecast team and serves as a men's basketball analyst for MVC TV Network and The Valley on ESPN contests. He is also a basketball game analyst for NBC Sports and has worked extensively as a basketball game analyst for ESPN.

A former college basketball coach at Northern Illinois and an NBA scout with the Indiana Pacers and the Seattle SuperSonics, he is a host at NBC Sports Chicago.

Kaplan is co-host of “KAP AND J-HOOD” – a daily sports talk show that airs from 7-10 a.m. on Chicago's ESPN 1000 Monday-Friday. He is also the host of “Baseball Night in Chicago” and “The Football Aftershow” on NBC Sports Chicago.

He is also the author of the best-selling book, The Plan, which chronicles the rebuild of the Chicago Cubs and their march to the 2016 World Series title – the team's first championship in 108 years.

He has also appeared as a guest on “The Oprah Winfrey Show,” and he was in the highly acclaimed documentary Hoop Dreams during his basketball scouting days.



# Missouri Valley Conference Television Talent

In 2011, Kaplan played a prominent role in the highly acclaimed ESPN documentary, *Catching Hell*, which chronicled the story of the 2003 Chicago Cubs and fan Steve Bartman who was thrust into the spotlight when the Cubs failed to win Game 6 of the National League Championship Series after leading 3-0 in the 8th inning at Wrigley Field.

A native of Skokie, Illinois, Kaplan is a graduate of Hamline University in St. Paul, Minnesota, where he received a bachelor's degree in English.



## KEVIN LEHMAN Analyst

Kevin Lehman is in his 11th season as member of The Valley's talent team as a regular-season basketball analyst for MVC TV Network and The Valley on ESPN.

A native of Iowa City, Iowa, Lehman has done analyst duties for the ESPN family of networks, the CBS Sports Network, Big 12 Network and American Sports Network.

From 2006-2011, he served as an analyst on the Iowa State Cyclone TV Network. He was the lead analyst for the U.S. Virgin Islands Paradise Jam from 2013-2016, 2018-2019 and 2021 plus the Cayman Island Classic in 2017. In 2015, he called the World University Games in South Korea that aired on ESPN.

He is currently an analyst for University of Northern Iowa men's basketball games on the Panther Sports Network and the ESPN family of networks, an in-studio personality for FOX Sports on KFXA-TV in Cedar Rapids and co-host of Mediacom Connections Channel's "Talk Sports."

A 24-year veteran of coaching, including 15 seasons at the collegiate level, Lehman was the head coach at the University of Nebraska at Omaha from 1995-2001. At UNO, his rebuilding efforts produced the school's first conference winning season in a decade, and his fifth campaign resulted in UNO's first back-to-back winning seasons in a decade. When Lehman left UNO, his win total ranked third all-time at the school.

In 1986, after coaching in Iowa high schools for nine seasons, he was hired by Eldon Miller at the University of Northern Iowa. As recruiting coordinator for UNI from 1986-1995, he recruited ten of UNI's top 20 scorers.

In 1990, the fourth season under Miller and his new staff, UNI basketball reached unprecedented heights with a 23-9 season, 19 school records, its first modern history win over the University of Iowa in front of a state-record crowd of 23,000 and a first-ever NCAA tournament bid. The 14th-seeded Panthers upset third-seed Missouri.

Inducted into the UNI Athletic Hall of Fame as a coach for the 1990 team and into the Regina High School Athletic Hall of Fame in 2008, he holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from Wartburg College and a master's in physical education from Drake University.

Lehman has three children: Austin (37), Grant (35) and Calvin (35).



## LAURA LEONARD Analyst

Laura Leonard is in her second tour (20th year overall) with The Valley's telecast team and serves as the lead analyst for women's basketball and softball distribution on The Valley on ESPN.

Prior to returning as a softball analyst in 2005, Leonard had previously handled a women's basketball analyst role for the league during the mid-1990s.

Recently retired as a sales representative for Eli Lilly Pharmaceuticals after 29 years of service, Leonard enters her 31st season as an analyst for either radio broadcasts or The Valley on ESPN productions for Drake women's basketball.

A two-sport athlete at Drake University from 1979 to 1983, she played both basketball and softball, earning Academic All-America women's basketball honors in 1983. Leonard later became head softball coach for the Bulldogs from 1985 to 1988.

A native of Des Moines, Iowa, Leonard received a bachelor's degree in education from Drake University in 1983 and earned a bachelor's degree in pharmacy from Drake in 1987.



## ANDY MASUR Play-by-Play

Andy Masur is in his first season as a member of The Valley's telecast team. He will handle play-by-play duties for regular-season men's basketball on the MVC TV Network and The Valley on ESPN.

Born and raised Chicagoan, Masur has worked for three MLB organizations, serving as the pre-/post-game host and fill-in play-by-play voice for the Chicago Cubs from 1999-2007.

Masur then moved on to be one of the radio voices of the San Diego Padres, from 2007-2013. Returning home, he was with the Chicago White Sox, serving as the pre-/post-game host for two years and then as the voice of the team on radio in 2020.

In his career, Masur has also done college basketball play-by-play for several NCAA Division I institutions – Loyola University Chicago, the University of San Diego and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee. He also did college baseball broadcasts for the Big Ten Network for three seasons.



## DAN McLAUGHLIN Play-by-Play

In his second tour as a member of the MVC Television Network on-air team, Dan McLaughlin will handle regular-season men's basketball productions. From 1998 to 2011, McLaughlin served as a play-by-play voice for league men's and women's basketball telecasts.

He finished his 25th season as the play-by-play voice for Cardinals television broadcasts on Bally Sports Midwest. A St. Louis native, McLaughlin called his first Major League game at the age of 23, and his work has earned him numerous Emmy Awards for outstanding play-by-play. His baseball assignments have included national telecasts of FOX Saturday Baseball.

# Missouri Valley Conference Television Talent

He has previously filled in on numerous Cardinals radio broadcasts working alongside Mike Shannon and Hall of Fame announcer Jack Buck, and he continues to produce daily radio and television features on the Cardinals Network and cardinals.com.

During the baseball off-season, McLaughlin has worked play by play for "FOX NFL Sunday" as well as calling college football and basketball for ESPN and FOX Sports. For over a decade, he had done work as the studio host of St. Louis Blues hockey on both radio and television broadcasts, and he currently is the television voice of St. Louis University Billikens Basketball.

A 1996 graduate of Lindenwood University where he had an athletic scholarship and played baseball, McLaughlin, 46, began his professional broadcasting career at KMOX Radio, and in 2001, he won the A.I.R. Award as St. Louis' best sportscaster.

Away from the booth, he serves on the boards and is active in numerous local charities, including "The Dan McLaughlin Golf Tournament" which has raised over \$4 million dollars for children with disabilities. He also formed the "Danny Macnificent Kids" program, which provides tickets, food and items at select Cardinals games to special needs and underprivileged children and their families.

He and his wife, Libby, make their home in St. Louis with their son Luke, daughter Avery, and twins Olivia and Barrett.



## CONNOR ONION Play-by-Play

Connor Onion is in his second year as a member of the league's telecast team and will handle play-by-play duties for regular-season women's basketball productions and ESPN's coverage of the 2022 MVC Baseball Tournament.

In addition to those responsibilities, Onion enters his fifth season providing television and radio play-by-play for Southern Illinois University Athletics. On SIU productions for The Valley on ESPN, he handles play-by-play for football and men's basketball.

In 2020, Onion added play-by-play responsibilities with Big Ten Network and ESPN. For Big Ten Network, he has broadcasted six different sports, including women's basketball and baseball. Onion has called select college football games for ESPN.

Onion began his broadcasting career in 2017 as a play-by-play broadcaster for the Quad Cities River Bandits – Single-A affiliate of the Houston Astros. He also called games for the Kane County Cougars – Single-A affiliate of the Arizona Diamondbacks. In the summer of 2021, Onion was the lead play-by-play voice for the Windy City ThunderBolts.

A 2017 graduate of Ball State University, he was named one of the top collegiate broadcasters in the country by Sportscasters Talent Agency of America.



## JOHN ROONEY Play-by-Play

John Rooney is in his second tour of duty as part of the Missouri Valley Conference Television Network talent team. Rooney served as a TV play-by-play voice for The Valley during the 1988-89 academic year.

A native of Richmond, Missouri, Rooney completed his 16th year of broadcasting St. Louis Cardinals games with partner Mike Shannon in 2021.

He came to St. Louis from the Chicago White Sox where he spent 18 years (1988-2005) – one in TV and 17 seasons following in the radio booth. The Cardinals World Championship crown in 2006 gave John the privilege of working with the World Champion team in back-to-back seasons, following the White Sox win in 2005.

Rooney, 66, called his first major league game in 1983 with Shannon and Hall of Fame Broadcaster Jack Buck during a three-game series between the Cardinals and host Cincinnati Reds.

He began his baseball broadcasting career at the class AAA level, spending the 1981-82 seasons with the Oklahoma City 89ers and the 1983-84 campaigns with the Louisville Redbirds.

He juggled two stints in the 1980's as a sports reporter for KMOX around his baseball broadcasting and also called University of Missouri basketball games for 20 seasons. He also has broadcast several college football bowls as well as the NCAA Men's Basketball Tournament, including the Final Four (1984-2002) and calling play-by-play for 10 national championship games on CBS/NCAA Radio Network.

Inducted into the state of Missouri Sports Hall of Fame in February 2004 and the Missouri Broadcasters Association Hall of Fame in August 2021, he and his wife, Susan, have two daughters, Colleen and Rachel.



## SCOTT WARMANN Play-by-Play / Host

Scott Warmann is in his 17th season as a member of The Valley's telecast team.

Warmann handles play-by-play duties and serves as the between-games host for the 2022 State Farm MVC Men's Basketball Championship at Enterprise Center in St. Louis.

He will also handle play-by-play responsibilities for the 2022 MVC Women's Basketball Tournament at TaxSlayer Center in Moline, Illinois, and for the 2021 MVC Baseball Tournament at Itchy Jones Stadium in Carbondale, Illinois.

Warmann has done play-by-play for the Missouri Valley Football Conference for the last 19 seasons.

A St. Louis native, he previously had been a fill-in host at Bally Sports Midwest for St. Louis Blues and St. Louis Cardinals pre-game and post-game studio shows, but has been the primary host for both teams since spring 2016.

Warmann has been a radio/TV studio host for the broadcast team of the 2019 Stanley Cup champion St. Louis Blues, 2011 World Series champion St. Louis Cardinals and the 2000 Super Bowl champion St. Louis Rams.



## BRAD WELLS Play-by-Play

Brad Wells is in his eighth year as a member of The Valley's on-air talent team. This season, he is responsible for basketball play-by-play duties for regular-season contests and games from the 2022 MVC Women's Basketball Championship in Moline, Illinois.

He serves as the play-by-play voice for the 2021 MVC Cross Country Championship in Normal, Illinois, the 2022 MVC Indoor Track and Field Championship in Chicago, Illinois, and the 2022 MVC Outdoor Track and Field Championship



# Missouri Valley Conference Television Talent

in Des Moines, Iowa.

Wells is also a part of the University of Northern Iowa production team for men's and women's basketball, softball, and volleyball telecasts for The Valley on ESPN. In fact, he did play-by-play for the Launch Match of The Valley on ESPN3, when UNI hosted Kentucky in volleyball on September 4, 2015.

Brad is in his eighth season as the UNI video contact for the MVC TV Network, providing player and coach features during men's and women's basketball telecasts. In addition, this is his eighth season announcing for the Panther Sports Network (PSN-TV) covering basketball, football and volleyball. Brad has worked on PSN radio broadcasts since 2009 and his work has been a part of CBS's NCAA Tournament pre-game coverage.

Wells completed his sixth season as a play-by-play announcer for the Missouri Valley Football Conference in 2021 and will be the play-by-play announcer for the men's and women's 2021 Paradise Jam Tournaments from the U.S. Virgin Islands on ESPN3/ESPN+. He also served as the play-by-play announcer for the Cayman Islands Classic men's basketball tournament in 2017.



## MARCUS WILSON Analyst

Marcus Wilson is in his fourth season with The Valley's on-air talent team, serving as analyst for productions on The Valley on ESPN.

He began his announcing career during the 2017-18 academic year as an analyst for Evansville men's and women's basketball productions for The Valley on ESPN3.

A native of South Bend, Indiana, and former standout at the University of Evansville, Wilson was named to the MVC's All-Centennial Team in 2007 and was inducted into the Evansville Athletics Hall of Fame in 2008.

Wilson led the Purple Aces in scoring all four years. During his senior year in 1998-99, Wilson was named the Larry Bird MVC Player of the Year after leading UE to the MVC title. He scored 34 points against Kansas in the first round of the NCAA Tournament.

After graduating from Evansville with a business degree in 1999, Wilson played in a summer league with the Utah Jazz. He then enjoyed an 11-year professional career that took him to Poland, Venezuela, Israel, Italy, France, Germany, Turkey, Ukraine and Spain.

Following his basketball career, Wilson worked in executive-level positions at Aaron's Sales and Lease and Chick-fil-a.

In 2013, Wilson joined the men's basketball staff at Saint Louis University as video coordinator, and in his first season, the Billikens won 19 games in a row, reached eighth in the Coaches Poll and captured the Atlantic 10 Conference regular-season championship.

In 2016, Wilson joined the Gateway Region YMCA as Executive Director of the Bayer YMCA in metropolitan St. Louis and in 2019, was saluted as a Community Trailblazer by iHeart Media for his work in the St. Louis community.

Wilson is currently the VP of Career Services at Rung For Women in St. Louis and Founder/CEO of Nurturing Potential International, a NPO that provides education and athletic opportunities in Africa and America.



## RICH ZVOSEC Analyst

Rich Zvosec is in his 12th season as a member of The Valley TV Network. Zvosec also serves as a college basketball analyst for the ESPN family of networks and CBS Sports.

During his 25-year coaching career, he built a strong reputation for turning around programs. He started or rebuilt programs

at each of his four head coaching stops.

In 2005, he guided Missouri-Kansas City to an overall 16-12 record (12-4 in conference) and became one of only 35 active college hoops coaches to be selected coach of the year in two different Division I conferences at two separate schools. That year, he was tabbed the Mid-Continent Conference, College Insider and CBSSportsline Coach of the Year.

His tenure at UMKC produced historic wins and results, finishing with the highest winning percentage in league play and producing the most league wins in school history. He left UMKC with the highest winning percentage in school history and had the second-highest Mid-Continent Conference (all league coaches) winning percentage during his six-year tenure.

He recorded the school's most historic victory, as he led the Kangaroos to a 93-52 win over Kansas State in 2003 – the school's 200th win and its first over the Wildcats.

At 27, he was the youngest Division I head coach in the country at St. Francis College in New York. In his third season, the Terriers recorded their most Division I wins in two decades, and he was named the 1991 Northeast Conference Coach of the Year.

He then built the University of North Florida program from scratch. In only its fourth season of existence, he led the school to the championship game of the Sunshine State Conference.

Since leaving coaching he has become a mainstay in the film and television community.

An award-winning commercial actor, he is a recipient of a Telly Award and has appeared in over 50 commercials.

Zvosec has appeared in over a dozen films, including Top Coat Cash, Death of Hollywood and Along Came a Spider, an episode of Friday Night Lights and Fatal Encounters. His latest film project – Strawberry Hill – is in pre-production and will shoot in the summer of 2021.

He has also published two books titled, Birds, Dogs and Kangaroos: Life on the Back Roads of College Basketball and For Tiger Fans Only.

# MVC Television & Radio Partners

## MVC Institutional Video Contacts & Television Network Contacts

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# MVC Television & Radio Partners

## Tournament Title Game To Air on CBS As Part of League's ESPN Agreement

The Missouri Valley Conference will have an exclusive 41-live event men's basketball package on ESPN networks during the 2021-22 academic year.

**ESPN 2**



The Conference also plans to clear a 10-game men's basketball television package on CBS Sports Network. In addition, The Valley eyes a 22-game men's basketball television package on Bally Sports Midwest and NBC Sports Chicago.

The Valley on ESPN – the league's co-branded digital platform via the ESPN app – will also distribute the productions outside the two networks' combined six-state footprint – Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Missouri and Nebraska. Telecasts shown within the regional sports networks' distribution area will be streamed on the Bally Sports app.

### ESPN APP

ESPN App is the leading sports app in the world and the premier all-in-one digital sports platform for fans on all major mobile and connected device platforms. With a rich, personalized experience, the ESPN App give sports fans one-stop access to all of ESPN's incredible content – TV Everywhere streaming; ESPN+ direct-to-consumer streaming (subscription); live scores, news, award-winning feature and investigative reporting; ESPN audio (radio and podcasts) and more – all in an experience unique to each fan's individual tastes.

### ESPN+

ESPN+ is the industry-leading sports streaming service that offers fans in the U.S. thousands of live sports events, original programming not available on ESPN's linear TV or digital networks and exclusive editorial content from dozens of ESPN writers and reporters. Launched in April 2018, ESPN+ has grown to more than 14.9 million subscribers.

Fans sign up to ESPN+ for just \$6.99 a month (or \$69.99 per year) at ESPN.com, ESPNplus.com or on the ESPN App (mobile and connected devices). It is also available as part of The Disney Bundle that gives subscribers access to Disney+, ESPN+ and Hulu for \$13.99/month (Hulu w/ads) or \$19.99/month (Hulu w/o ads).

### ESPN3

ESPN3 is ESPN's live multi-screen sports network that delivers thousands of exclusive sports events annually. It is accessible on the ESPN App across mobile and connected streaming devices to fans who receive their high-speed internet connection or video subscription from an affiliated service provider.

**ESPN 3**

## Television Production



### LTN GLOBAL COMMUNICATIONS

751 Haines Drive  
Liberty, MO 64068

In July 2021, the Missouri Valley Conference signed a new three-year contract with LTN® Global to continue

to serve as the league's linear production company through the 2023-24 academic term. LTN Global produces the men's basketball telecast package for distribution on Bally Sports Midwest, Bally Sports Indiana, Bally Sports Kansas City and NBC Sports Chicago.

LTN Global is a worldwide leader in video technology solutions for producers and distributors of broadcast-quality content. Built on the world's fastest and most reliable IP multicast network, LTN's universal media ecosystem unites modular services and integrates with other leading technologies to bring full-video-chain workflows, driving scale from creation and acquisition to monetization and delivery.

LTN Global has been connecting the world with transformative video experiences for more than 12 years and continues to make content more valuable and relevant to media organizations and global audiences.

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### TUPELO HONEY

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In July 2021, the Missouri Valley Conference signed a new three-

year contract with Tupelo Honey Raycom to continue to serve as the league's digital production company through the 2023-24 academic term. Tupelo Honey produces the Conference's postseason championship package, including the women's basketball tournament, for distribution on either ESPN+ or ESPN3.

Tupelo Honey is a full-service production company with over 25 years of experience in sports, music and entertainment. One of the nation's largest independent production companies, Tupelo Honey produces live network broadcasts, streaming media, REMI live video productions, documentaries, reality programming, commercials, branded entertainment, promos and digital content.

With offices in New York, Indianapolis, Atlanta, Nashville and Charlotte, Tupelo's Emmy Award-winning staff creates content across all linear, digital, OTT and social media platforms.

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# MVC Television & Radio Partners

## CBS Sports & CBS Sports Network Info.



CBS Sports, a year-round leader in cross-platform sports coverage, broadcasts a portfolio of events on the CBS Television Network, including THE NFL ON CBS; college football, including the SEC ON CBS; college basketball, including the NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Championship; golf, including The Masters®, PGA Championship and PGA TOUR; soccer, including the UEFA Champions League and NWSL; and CBS SPORTS SPECTACULAR. In addition, the division includes CBS SPORTS NETWORK, the 24-hour cable home of CBS Sports which televises live sports programming throughout the year, including college football and basketball games, UEFA Champions League and Europa League action, as well as a full slate of original programming and studio coverage. CBS Sports also delivers an extensive lineup of soccer coverage on Paramount+, including every UEFA club competition match as the exclusive English-language home in the U.S., and produces INSIDE THE NFL for Paramount+. CBS Sports Digital's multi-platform offerings include CBSSports.com and the CBS Sports apps for mobile and connected TV devices; the 24/7 streaming sports news network CBS Sports HQ; 24/7Sports; MaxPreps; CBS Sports fantasy games; and Sport-sLine.



CBS Sports Network, the 24-hour home of CBS Sports, is available through all major cable, satellite and telco distributors as well as via OTT streaming service providers YouTube TV, fuboTV, DirecTV and Hulu. Additionally, a live CBS Sports Network stream is available through CBSSports.com and the CBS Sports App with select providers.

## MVC Regional Sports Network Partners



In addition to being the regional television home for MVC men's basketball, Bally Sports Midwest is a presenting sponsor of the State Farm MVC Men's Basketball Championship in St. Louis each March.

Bally Sports Midwest, which was rebranded from FOX Sports Midwest on March 31, 2021, and sister networks Bally Sports Indiana and Bally Sports Kansas City reach millions of homes in six Midwestern states and telecast more than 3,000 hours of local programming annually.

Bally Sports Midwest is also the home for St. Louis Cardinals baseball, St. Louis Blues hockey, Kansas City Royals baseball, Sporting Kansas City soccer, and Indiana Pacers and Indiana Fever basketball. Bally Sports Midwest viewers can stream programming on the Bally Sports app and BallySports.com.



NBC Sports Chicago, a partnership between the Chicago Blackhawks (NHL), Chicago Bulls (NBA), Chicago White Sox (MLB) and the NBC Sports Group, features "exclusive, local/regional telecast coverage" of over 275 live pro games, along with extensive pre/post-game coverage for its core pro team partners, as well as Chicago Bears postgame coverage, plus massive cross-platform coverage provided by the network's growing digital platform, NBCSportsChicago.com, the "MyTeams by NBC Sports" app, and its variety of fan-focused social media outlets. Fans can follow the network on Twitter via @NBCSChicago.

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